

CFC Special Solicitation: Ukraine Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



What is the CFC Special Solicitation?

The Director of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is authorized to open the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) pledge portal outside of the usual CFC timeframe in cases of emergencies and disasters. This CFC Special Solicitation allows the federal community to support those affected by the humanitarian and refugee crisis in and around Ukraine.

Why is the Special Solicitation being launched through the CFC?

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. ordered federal assistance to help ease the burden on people in Europe and refugees around the world impacted by the war in Ukraine. Millions of Ukrainians, especially vulnerable populations, are in great need. Many of these individuals are unable to access clean water, food, shelter, and medical care.

International, national, and local health and human welfare organizations participating in the CFC are uniquely positioned to supplement the Federal government's overall response by allowing employees to pledge additional resources to charities and to those that are actively responding throughout the world.

The federal community is incredibly generous and has inquired about opportunities to contribute to those in need during this humanitarian and refugee crisis. The CFC is the only authorized solicitation of employees in the federal workplace on behalf of charitable organizations. The [CFC Online Giving System](#) and CFC Giving Mobile App are safe, trusted, and proven ways to make contributions to more than 5,000 501(c)(3) charitable organizations that meet overall CFC regulatory requirements. All donations made during the CFC Special Solicitation will be distributed to designated charities as part of the existing monthly CFC distribution channel, and no additional fees will be withheld. Therefore, 100% of each donation will go directly to the designated charities.

What is the timeframe of the CFC Special Solicitation?

The [CFC Online Giving System](#) and CFC Giving Mobile App will be open through June 30, 2022.

What charities will be included and eligible for donations in this Special CFC Solicitation?

Donations can be designated to one or more of the more than 5,000 local, national, and international 501(c)(3) organizations from the [2021 CFC Charity List](#). While the CFC Special Solicitation has been launched in response to the current humanitarian and refugee crisis, donations will be distributed as unrestricted funds to work wherever they are needed most.

How can a federal employee or retiree pledge through the CFC Special Solicitation?

Donations can be made through the [CFC Online Giving System](#) and the CFC Giving Mobile App. Everyone can pledge via a credit/debit card or bank account, and federal employees who did not make a

payroll deduction pledge through the fall 2021 CFC may do so now. Existing payroll deduction pledges cannot be increased at this time.

Can donors mail a completed paper pledge form directly to the CCA for processing during the CFC Special Solicitation?

Paper forms for employees or retirees are available at <https://cfcncnca.givecfc.org/index.php/pledge-forms>

If I already pledged during the 2021 CFC, can I give again during this CFC Special Solicitation?

Yes! Donors who have an existing donation account with payroll deduction will see the options to donate only via credit card, debit card, or ACH (electronic checks). Gifts can be made as either a one-time or recurring monthly pledge through January 2023.

If I did not pledge during the 2021 CFC, can I give during this CFC Special Solicitation?

Yes! Donors who did not participate in the 2021 campaign via payroll deduction and any new hires/new retirees in the government will be offered the option to create a new payroll deduction if they choose. They can also donate a one-time or monthly recurring gift via credit card, debit card, or ACH (electronic check).

Can payroll allotments be increased during this CFC Special Solicitation?

No. Donors cannot make changes to an existing payroll donation. This prevents downstream impacts to payroll providers, which are not prepared to handle these changes.

Can pledges made during the CFC Special Solicitation be changed later?

Recurring donors can cancel the balance of unpaid donations at any time. However, one-time donations are processed the week of the pledge and are non-refundable.

Can an employee donate volunteer time through the CFC Special Solicitation?

Yes. Federal employees can pledge volunteer time with selected charities identified with the hand icon in either the paper charity listing or on the [CFC online pledge portal](#).

Will donations during the CFC Special Solicitation be subject to a distribution fee?

No. Any new donations collected during the special solicitation will not have any distribution fees withheld.

When will charities receive the funds pledged during the CFC Special Solicitation?

All funds collected will be distributed based on the next standard monthly distribution schedule as early as May 15 and each month until January 15, 2023 (for recurring gifts).

Does OPM have the legal authority to launch a CFC Special Solicitation like this?

Under **5 CFR §950.102 Scope of the Combined Federal Campaign. (a) (2):**

“The Director may grant permission for solicitations of Federal employees, outside the CFC, in support of victims in cases of emergencies and disasters. Emergencies and disasters are defined as any hurricane, tornado storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, drought, fire, explosion, or other catastrophes in any part of the world. Any special solicitations will be managed through a Disaster Relief Program developed by OPM.”

What health and human welfare needs can be met as a result of this CFC Special Solicitation?

The war in Ukraine and the resulting humanitarian and refugee crisis have strained medical, financial, educational, emotional, and social resources throughout Europe and beyond. Nonprofit organizations face increased demand for their services in responding to victims and refugees. The urgency to support charitable services could not be more real! In the weeks and months ahead, the supplemental gifts through the CFC Special Solicitation will provide additional capacity to approved charities to deliver vital services.

Where can donors go if they have additional questions about the CFC Special Solicitation?

The CCA call center support will service donor calls during the special solicitation at 800-797-0098 (8 a.m. – 6 p.m. CST).